

## TECHNOLOGY PLANNING UPDATE

### **Are technology plans still required to be approved by the state?**

Beginning in 2013, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education no longer has state or federal mandates "requiring" public/charter schools/districts to submit technology plans for state approval -- unless your school/district is applying for Priority 2, e-rate funds offered by the Federal Communications Commission.

### **What does that mean for schools/districts?**

The Department will no longer review/approve local technology plans on a three-year cycle. Instead, schools/districts will complete an "assurance form" on our website noting the completion of selected items that are included in your local plan. The four-question, assurance form will be approved by the Department only for Priority 2, e-rate funding purposes.

### **When will this new website be available?**

The new Compliance Plans (Federal & State) feature should be available in March 2013. It can be found under Web Applications, Cross-Divisional under the secure site. Your local school/district will need to assign a user id and password to enter this information.

### **How will local districts plan for future technology needs?**

All districts are urged to continue technology planning, whether that is articulated in a separate document or combined in a school improvement plan. Preparing for the needs of students, teachers and administration is always necessary!

### **When will the official plans need to be reviewed?**

At this time, we are planning a review cycle so our staff can monitor your official planning document. The details are not yet complete. In the meantime, your assurance form will be reviewed and, if appropriate, approved.

### **Can we be audited by the FCC?**

Yes, the FCC does audit schools. They will ask to see evidence of your approved assurance form and any accompanying documentation.

### **When will the technology plan assurances be due?**

The assurances will be due by April 30; however, during 2013 the window will remain open until June.

### **Do all districts need to submit an assurance form?**

No, only districts applying for Priority 2, e-rate funds should complete the form. All schools should continue local planning for technology use in education.

### **Who do I contact for additional information?**

Rusty Rosenkoetter may be reached at 573/522-3651

**Following is a sample of the on-line application:**

**ACTUAL ON-LINE APPLICATION WILL SOON BE AVAILABLE AT:**

dese.mo.gov - Web Applications - Cross Divisional - Compliance Plans (Federal & State)

Only districts applying for or receiving e-rate funds from the FCC for Priority 2 services are required to have state-approved technology plans. Priority 2 includes such items as VOIP (voice over Internet), firewalls, wireless LANS, and other items required to complete the "connection" and use technology in districts. The three-year plans are due by April 30.

As required by the Universal Service Administration Company (USAC) for Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Priority 2 services, we verify that our district has a technology plan that contains the following four elements:

1. Clear goals and strategies for using telecommunication and information to improve education or library services. It includes up to three years of improvement goals and strategies that align with educational improvement efforts, including (check all applicable):
  - student performance;
  - student technology literacy;
  - visionary leadership;
  - adequate technology budget; and
  - other:
2. Professional development strategies to ensure that staff know how to use the technologies to improve education or library services, including (check all applicable):
  - teacher /administrator/technologist training or professional development;
  - staff performance measures;
  - training/professional development documentation;
  - data management plans;
  - acceptable use policies;
  - filtering;
  - Internet safety education (including Children's Internet Protection Act requirements); and
  - other:
3. Regular assessment of telecommunication services, technical support, hardware, software and other services needed to improve education or library services, including (check all applicable):
  - sufficient oversight of budget;
  - defined technology integration standards;
  - tools for diverse learners;
  - student/computer ratio;
  - connectivity/band width at school and in community;
  - robust administrative, data management and communication systems;
  - instructional software;
  - web/cloud-based tools for teacher/student use; and
  - other:

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4. An evaluation process that enables the district to monitor progress toward the specified goals and make mid-course corrections in response to new developments and opportunities, including (check all applicable):
- review of student performance (as supported with technology);
  - educator effectiveness;
  - parental involvement;
  - administrative utilization/dependability;
  - total cost of operation;
  - compliance with other state/federal regulations (as appropriate); and
  - other: